

*SECTION 2*

*Prophetic Bible Conference  
Lectures*

**“God’s Great  
Prophecies”**



- No. 4. The Second Coming of Christ, and  
Its Signs and Shadows.**
- No. 5. The Zionist Movement, or The Re-  
storation of the Hebrews to Palestine.**
- No. 6. The Sign-Posts on the Way to the  
Millennium, or The Period-Divisions  
of Daniel’s Seventieth Week.**

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The Second Coming of Christ is the key-stone of the events of future prophetic fulfilment. If you fail to understand it, you can never hope to comprehend the prophetic utterances of God’s Word.

Closely related to the Second Advent of Christ stands the Modern Zionist Movement among the Jewish Nation. This Movement, which is based on Scriptural promises and Covenants, infuses an intense interest into the study of prophecy on this subject.

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**Lectures Delivered by Wm. Aberhart, B.A.,**

1216 Thirteenth Ave. West - - - Calgary

under Auspices of Prophetic Bible Conference.

President, G. E. Bradley.

Literary Steward, T. S. Hughes, 102 Fourteenth Ave. E.



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# THINK ABOUT THIS!

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The excitement and extreme importance of International Deliberations of the present moment makes it seem very appropriate that GOD'S people should consider "His Counsel" as revealed in the prophetic utterances of the Scriptures. Many who have hitherto ignored prophecy altogether are eagerly turning to it to-day.

It is, therefore, more necessary than ever that certain directions and warnings should be given to those earnestly enquiring.

Every reader of prophecy must keep clear of the deluding art, which by a process of permutative idealization makes out of God's prophecy whatever suits individual fancy. We must let God interpret, rather than float out on airy dreams of our own.

It is an insidious procedure which makes the concrete, the literal, and the real disappear from God's work and replaces them by something volatile and airy.

We must beware of the habit of Allegorizing as introduced by Origen and aided by the Modern German-bred Higher Critics who say "The main thing in prophecy is the 'inner thought,' or that is the "idea underneath," not the words. The words mean little. There is no verbal inspiration." The words of God are not human as they say. They are the wheat, not the chaff. 2 Pet. 1:21.

"Prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

Let us hear God rather than man.



## LECTURE No. 4

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# The Signs and the Shadows of the Coming of Christ.

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In the former three lectures of Section 1, we dealt only with the broad, general outlines of Prophecy, noting as we went along the well-defined principles and established methods of interpretation, as laid down clearly in GOD'S WORD. You may have noted that all our study thus far has clustered around the cross of Calvary. When I spoke of the great break in the Times of the Hebrews, you may have noted that the CROSS stood in the middle of it, its two arms stretching out both ways, the one pointing to the rebellion and idolatry of Israel, and the other calling our attention to that glorious future, when Israel will have returned to GOD, and the MESSIAH shall bless them during the Millennium. Again when we recognized the GREAT PROPHETIC BREAK in the TIMES of the GENTILES, you may have noticed that the Cross of Calvary stands out to separate that which is History from that which is Prophecy.

Before the Cross we see the four great WORLD-EMPIRES,—Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome, arise and pass away, and after it, when the Dispensation of the GRACE of GOD is completed, we realize that a FIFTH,—a Ten-King-Confederacy, has yet to come. In the last lecture I pointed out that the CROSS stands at the dividing of the WAY in the 70 sabbatical weeks of GABRIEL'S Revelation to Daniel as recorded in his 9th Chap vs. 24-27. All Bible students should recognize that 69 of those weeks of years closed at the CROSS of Calvary, and that the 70th week, at the end of which the Millennium is to be introduced, is YET in the future. We are living today under the shadow of the CROSS. We are living in the Dispensation of GOD'S GREAT GRACE, and the 70th week, that period of GREAT Tribulation, spoken of by CHRIST, is yet to come. I have no hesitation in saying, therefore, that all the fundamental and essential principles of prophecy point to and cluster around the Cross of Calvary. The great outlines of Prophecy are roads, all leading to Calvary. It is the centre of the centuries. It stands out on the horizon, as a great mountain that every student of GOD'S WORD must take note of. Hear me, men and women, the person who has not seen the signification of the CROSS in the great prophecies of GOD, has not travelled very far down the road of TRUE BIBLE Prophecy, for I submit, that if you are rightly studying GOD'S Prophecies it will not be long before you come, face to face, with a suffering MESSIAH, hanging upon a Cross for the sins of a wicked world of mankind. In my first address I called your attention to the fact that some men say, we should not study prophecy. I replied to that objection on that occasion, but I wish to add to-night, since we have travelled a little down the way, that anyone who will faithfully follow its study, BIBLE in hand, will sooner or later find himself gazing at the blood-stained CROSS of Calvary. The trouble is that men and women everywhere are reading too much of other stuff,—too much of the literature of men's opinions and not enough of GOD'S prophecies. I wish that every one that hears me now, could fully say that they have begun to realize that HISTORY and PROPHECY go hand in hand, to prove that the CROSS of CALVARY stands in the centre of time declaring to all men a WAY OF SALVATION FROM SIN.

I am speaking thus at this time, for I purpose to pass on at once to the **SECOND SECTION** of prophecy and deal more in detail with the events of the Future, and I know that unless you have recognized the place in **GOD'S Economy** of the **CROSS** of **CALVARY**, you can not fully comprehend that which is to follow.

### **THE SECOND SECTION DEALS WITH THE COMPLETION OF THE REDEMPTION PURCHASED BY THE MESSIAH, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, on the CROSS.**

Let me say then as we begin our second section of prophetic study that the bulk of the events, that we shall further deal with, have a direct bearing and point distinctly to a **SECOND PERSONAL RETURN** of the **LORD JESUS** to the **EARTH**, in a **VISIBLE MANNER**.

Now I realize that I have made use of an expression, which will be so fundamental to our future study that I must pause to get clearly in mind its actual meaning.

### **WHAT DOES THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST ACTUALLY MEAN?**

Any student of the **BIBLE** who is ignorant of this doctrine is absolutely incapable of intelligently proceeding further in the study of Prophecy.

You need not be surprised, therefore, to find that the **DEVIL** and his **AGENTS** hate this doctrine and try their best to bewilder and confuse people concerning it. The Bible warns us that this shall be the case in the last days:

2 PET. 3, 3-4: "Knowing this first that there shall come scoffers in the last days walking after their own lusts and saying, Where is the promise of His Coming? for since the fathers fell asleep all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation?"

Are you actually aware of this fact? I mean, have you met them? These scoffers do not ask the question: "Where is the promise of His coming?" for the sake of gaining information as regards where we are to find it in the **BIBLE**. No, their suggestion means what has become of **GOD'S** promise to return, and then they proceed to show that it will never come,—that it is all a bunch of "apocalyptic stuff" and not reliable. I want to say to you to-night that we have these scoffers in our very midst at the present time and some of you are helping to pay their salaries. They warn you against studying the truth of the **SECOND COMING** of our blessed **LORD** and **SAVIOUR**. They belittle those that believe it. They publicly declare that Christ never left the earth and therefore can not be said to be about to return. **THINK OF IT**, and then turn to **GOD'S WORD**:

**ACTS 1, 11:** "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same **JESUS** which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven."

They tell you it is all "Apocalyptic Stuff"; that you can not understand it and that you had better keep away from it. Does it not seem strange that these men are so anxious to keep you from even reading your **BIBLES** concerning it? Why should they fear if you are unable to understand it? The sad part of it all is that many church members and members of the sects are paying heed to this and are really afraid to open their Bibles to read what it says.

### **THE PRIESTCRAFT IS NOT ALL CONFINED TO ONE CHURCH.**

It is quite evident to the thoughtful observer that the priestcraft is not all confined to one church. I am getting that I always size up the man who warns me against studying my **BIBLE**. I confess I am more afraid of perusing the varied opinions of men than I am of studying

GOD'S WORD, and I am sure you should be also. I do not think it would hurt you to use a little of Pat's logic on those Spiritual Advisors of yours. You see, Pat became very much interested in reading his Bible, but he happened to have some very superstitious friends, who became very alarmed when they heard it and rushed to tell the priest. Of course, the priest visited Pat at once and told him of the awful thing he was doing. "Patrick," said he, "I hear you are trying to read the Bible." "Yes, your Reverence," replied Pat. "Well, now, look here, Pat, you should not try to read that book. It is not for the likes of you to understand."

"Why, your honor, sure it says: 'You shall read it unto your children,' and in another place the Master Himself said, 'Search the Scriptures.' Should I not obey Him?" "But, Patrick," replied the priest, "I tell you it will make a heretic of you. The likes of you can not understand it. That is what we priests are for, to interpret the Holy Word to you." "Faith," said Pat, with a shake of his head, "I can not fathom that. The Bible is written in plain Irish, and sure if I can understand it, I shall not need to bother you then, but if I can not understand it, surely it will do me no harm!"

That is pretty good logic. Some of you folk that meet with it could use it to good advantage. Sure if you get to understand the SECOND COMING OF CHRIST you will have no more need of these SPIRITUAL (?) advisors. You will believe and be able to read and understand the BOOK yourself, and if you can not it will do you no harm.

#### GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THE TRUTH OF THE LORD'S RETURN.

I am not going to waste your time to-night with the theories of men, but turn at once to GOD'S WORD to have him interpret for you. You will remember GOD'S method of instructing us. He always puts two doctrines side by side, one of which is plainly known to us. Then since we understand the one, by the same logic we can understand the other.

Let us turn then to Luke 1:31-33:

"Behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shall call his name JESUS. He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the LORD GOD shall give unto Him the throne of His Father, David. And He shall reign over the House of Jacob forever."

I say to myself, was verse 31 literally fulfilled? Was Jesus actually born of a Virgin? He certainly was. How dare anyone blaspheme and degrade the name of Christ by doubting it? The person who presumptuously stands in the pulpit and denies this should be forsaken of men. They say it isn't reasonable. That's strange! God could make the first man out of dust and yet it isn't reasonable to believe that God could make the second out of human flesh. What? They don't accept the story of the Creation, either. Well, take them on their own ground. If God could evolve man out of a monkey by His own power, is it unreasonable to suppose that the great GOD, pure and holy, could not create a child without man's help? What rubbish! Yes, sir, verse 31 is literal. It is in direct accord with prophecy.

ISA. 7, 14: "Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel."

Then, according to God's method of instruction, if verse 31 is literal and actual, verses 32 and 33 must also be taken literally and Christ will sit on "David's throne and reign over the house of Jacob forever." Now, since that is so, it follows that Christ must come again. The Second Coming of Christ is, therefore, as certain, as literal, and as reliable as the Virgin Birth of the Saviour.

(2) Now note: I. Thess 4:14:

"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again EVEN SO them also that sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him."

Now, I ask, did Jesus actually die on the Cross of Calvary? Was it true that the Soldiers pierced his side with the sword, but did not break his shin bones because they saw he was dead already,—actually dead? Do you believe that he arose from the dead in flesh and bones,—that the tomb was found empty,—that He showed Himself alive by many infallible proofs? Or are you one of the number who have given heed to the story that the Disciples stole the body away?—or that the body passed off in gases in the short time of three days and three nights, bones and all? (Rather rapid disintegration!) Can you really believe that, when you read what Jesus Himself said:

LUKE 24, 39. "Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself, handle Me and see, for a Spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye see Me have."

No, sir, I tell you any man who believes his Bible must know that Jesus actually died and rose again in flesh and bones. Now, since that be true, God declares that it is equally true that He is coming again and will bring those that sleep in Jesus with Him. What is that? Do the Christian dead actually go to Heaven when they die? Certainly. Otherwise how could Christ bring them with Him?

A man who believes in the Second Coming of Christ literally as revealed in the Scriptures cannot believe in that foolish un-Scriptural theory of soul-sleeping in the grave.

I received a copy of a "Christian Science Sentinel" the other day which had an article in it about the Second Coming of Christ. In this article the writer treated the subject in a figurative, mystical, allegorical manner. I do not know very much about Christian Science, but if that is a sample of their method of Scriptural interpretation, I want to say that I could not accept it as in accord with the plain teaching of God's Word. The doctrine of Christ's return is as literal, actual and reliable as the death and resurrection of Christ. Deny His return and you must logically deny the Atonement. Believe in His death and you must also believe in His actual, visible return.

(3) Again, the Coming of Christ is as actual, real and visible as His Ascension.

ACTS 1, 11. "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into Heaven? This same Jesus which is taken up from you into Heaven shall SO come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into Heaven."

Note the words: "Same Jesus"—"in like manner"—"shall SO come." What clearer language could it be?

This is but a repetition of the promise that Christ gave to the Disciples when He said:

JOHN 14, 1-3 "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's House are many mansions, if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I SHALL COME AGAIN and receive you unto Myself, that where I am ye may be also."

He went away. He ascended into Heaven. I, therefore, declare He is surely coming again. It is as certain as His Word is reliable. Hear me, men and women, if the prophecies regarding His first Advent, its manner, time and place were literally fulfilled, why can you not, without any hesitation, accept the fact that prophecies regarding His Second Advent, its manner, certainty, and place, will also be actually and literally fulfilled? It surely is most logical.

(4) I want you to note carefully one other passage:

1 Cor. 11-26: "For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup ye do shew forth the Lord's Death till He come."

How can any minister truly officiate at the table of the Lord's Supper if he does not believe that the Lord is coming again? In the passage quoted above, the Lord has told us how long we are to continue the observance—till "He comes." If He came at Pentecost, as some of them say, then I ask them why do they continue to hold this ordinance? If He



came at the Destruction of Jerusalem, A.D. 70, as others declare, then why do they continue the ordinance?

Not very long ago the people of Calgary were enlightened by a speaker who declared that Christ came on November 11, 1918.

I wonder if they ceased holding Communion after that date? There is no use trying to spiritualize the Second Coming of the Lord unless you spiritualize everything.

The Millennial Dawnists, I am given to understand, declare that Christ came in 1874. That was before I was born, but the churches are still holding Communion, so I judge none of the churches have heard about it. I never saw one of them that had seen Him yet. He must be in a secret chamber some place. Hear what the Master Himself said about this:

MATT 24-26 "Wherefore if they shall say unto you. Behold He is in the desert, go not forth, behold He is in the secret chambers BELIEVE IT NOT."

The Coming of Christ is a real event. We shall actually see Him again. I have never been able to get the viewpoint of the man who says: "Christ comes at the death." When I read.

"The Lord Himself shall descend with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and the trump of God and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air (1 THESS. 4-17)

I say to myself. We do not hear any SHOUT—nor the voice of an ARCHANGEL—nor the trumpet of GOD—when anyone dies. The dead in Christ are not raised and we who are alive and remain are not caught up to meet Him in the air when a person dies. It, therefore, can not refer to death.

"But," says another: "Is Christ not coming gradually through the preaching of the Gospel? Does Scripture not tell us that the Gospel shall be preached in all the world and then cometh the end?"

Turn to Matt. 24:27:

"For as lightning cometh out of the East and shineth even unto the West, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be."

There is nothing gradual about lightning. Neither shall there be anything gradual about Christ's Return.

It shall take place in the twinkling of an eye. (1 Cor. 15:52).

But I have stopped long enough with this. It is useless to multiply proofs. The unbiased, unprejudiced mind, who is ready to accept God's Word as it reads, and who is really anxious to know the truth must surely come to the conclusion that Christ is actually coming again to this earth in flesh and bones. Just as truly as He was born of the Virgin, crucified, dead and buried, arose the third day and ascended into Heaven. He is coming again.

### THE SCOPE OF OUR INVESTIGATION AT THIS TIME.

I take this then as our starting point in our second section and I desire first of all to discover what signs the Bible has given us with regard to this great event. What events and conditions will prevail on earth before Christ comes again? Will the world become better and better until we find righteousness prevailing or will He come to a world sunken in sin?

What about the conditions of the individual and the State, of Capital and Labor, in the last days? What does the Bible say about war?

### **AN IMPORTANT DISTINCTION NECESSARY.**

Before facing these questions it is quite fundamental to our careful thought to make a very important distinction in connection with the Lord's Return.

The Parousia or Appearing of Christ differs from the Apocalypse or Revelation of Christ in two very distinct ways:

(1) In point of TIME.—The appearing of Christ occurs at the end of the present dispensation of GRACE, whereas the Coming of Christ occurs at the end of the TIMES of the Gentiles.

Between these two great events, the 70th week of Daniel (7 years) comes, during which the Fifth great world-empire, the Ten-King-Confederacy, will hold sway.

(2) In manner.

When Christ appears the Saints are caught up to meet Him in the air, but when He comes to the earth He shall bring the Saints with Him. In the Rapture He comes FOR the Saints. In the Revelation He comes WITH the Saints. (c.f. 1 Thess 4:16-17 and Zech. 14:4; also 1 Thess. 1:10 with 1 Thess. 3:13, and Jude 14.)

It is, therefore, obvious that He must come FOR His Saints before He can come WITH them.

### **CONFUSION RESULTING FROM FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE THIS.**

Scores of people, here and there, the world over, not having carefully considered this point, are giving expression to many erroneous ideas. Some attempt to fix the date of His coming as 1919 or 1923, etc., and labor with much effort, to establish their contention, but the person who distinguishes the Appearing from the Coming, knows at once that since the former has not taken place, therefore, the latter cannot take place for at least seven years, and therefore, Jesus cannot come in 1919 or 1923.

He may appear for His church at any time, but He cannot come for seven years yet. This error has existed from the earliest times. Paul speaks about it:

II. THESS 2, 1-3. "Now we beseech you, brethren, by the COMING of our LORD and by our GATHERING together unto Him, that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled neither by spirit nor by word, nor by letter as from us as that the Day of CHRIST is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means, for that day shall not come except there come a falling away first and that man of sin be revealed, the Son of Perdition."

The day of Christ is preceded by the Night of Darkness. There must come a falling away first and the Man of Sin, the Antichrist, must be revealed. Now we Christians of this dispensation are of the day, not of the night. We shall be taken out of the world to meet Christ in the air before these things happen.

I. THESS 5, 4-5. "But ye brethren are not in darkness that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all children of light and children of the day, we are not of the night nor of the darkness."

This leads us to the question: "What are the signs of His coming?"

### **THE SIGNS OF CHRIST'S COMING**

In dealing with this question we shall note (1) the events prophesied to happen and (2) the conditions that are to exist just before His return. It might be added that since the appearing of Christ occurs just seven years before His coming, the conditions of the Last Days will surely be manifested in a slight form before the Rapture takes place.

(a) The events between the appearing and the coming of Christ.

The Lord was careful to tell us that the only sign given throughout the dispensation of GRACE was the sign of the Prophet Jonas, i.e., the Resurrection of Christ.

MATT. 16, 4: "A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall be no sign given unto it, but the sign of the prophet, Jonas."

MATT. 12, 40. "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

ROM. 1, 4: "Christ was declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead."

This is evidence enough to prove to us that the Lord Jesus is worthy of our confidence and trust. He has power to save and forgive sins.

However, the following events occur AFTER the Rapture.

(1) Immediately after the Appearing of Christ for His Church, we are told that the Anti-Christ will be revealed.

II. THESS. 2, 6-8. "And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only He who now hindereth will hinder until He be taken out of the way. And THEN shall the Wicked One be revealed."

As soon as the Holy Spirit takes the church out, the Antichrist will be revealed. To be exact, 250 days after the Rapture, the Antichrist will have ascended to the throne of the King of the North. (This will be dealt with in more detail later on).

(2) The next great event will be the league of the Antichrist with the Jews. He promises the Jews their temple worship for seven years if they will support His claim to the throne of the Kingdom of the North.

DAN. 11, 20-23: "Then shall stand up in his estate (Kingdom of North) a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honor of the Kingdom; but he shall come in peaceably and obtain the Kingdom by flatteries. . . . And after the league made with him, he shall work deceitfully."

The Jews are longing for their temple worship again in Jerusalem. God's Word says they will get it through a covenant with the Antichrist, but this shall not last.

(3) The third great event is the cessation of the Daily Sacrifice by command of the Antichrist in the midst of the week or that is at the end of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years.

DAN. 9, 27. "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week; and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease and for the overspreading of abomination he shall make it desolate."

DAN. 11, 31. "And Arms shall stand on his part and they shall pollute the Sanctuary of strength and shall take away the daily sacrifice and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate."

One hundred and forty-four thousand—12,000 from each of the twelve tribes—shall resist him in battle and suffer martyrdom for "arms shall stand on his part."

(4) Just 1290 days after that the Abomination Image shall be set up by the False Prophet who has by this time arisen out of the Apostate Church.

DAN. 12, 11. "And from the time the daily sacrifice shall be taken away and the Abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand, two hundred and ninety days."

REV. 13, 14-15: "And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast which had the wound by a sword and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed."

That this thing has not yet happened is surely self-evident to everyone. This is in the midst of the Great Tribulation that precedes Christ's Coming.

(5) The last great event, with its accompanying horrors, is the "Battle of Armageddon." The cry will go out into the world as prophesied in

JOEL 3, 9-13: "Proclaim this among the Gentiles—Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near, let them come up. Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears, let the weak say, I am strong. Let the heathen be awakened and come to the valley of Jehoshaphat." (c.f. REV. 16, 13-16 and 19, 11-19).

Thus the mighty armies of the earth are gathered around Jerusalem for this great battle. This cry has never yet gone forth. It is still in the future.

The armies shall besiege Jerusalem and then the immediate signs in the Heavens shall occur which precede the Lord's Coming. The Stars will fall. The moon shall be turned into blood and the sun shall be darkened. On the earth a terrific earthquake shall shake its very foundations and men's hearts shall fall through fear. They shall call upon the mountains to fall on them and hide them from the wrath to come.

MATT. 24, 29: "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the Sun be darkened and the Moon shall not give her light and the Stars shall fall from Heaven, and the powers of the Heavens shall be shaken. And then shall appear the Sign of the Son of Man in Heaven." (See Rev. 6, 15-16).

As we think of all these things, should we not rejoice that we are still in the day of God's mercy. We still can say: "Now is the day of Salvation," or

JOHN 3, 36: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life but he that believeth not shall not see life but the wrath of God abideth on him."

These then are the five outstanding events leading up to Christ's Coming. They are all preceded by the Rapture, i.e., the taking out of the world of Christ's true body of believers.

Let us now turn our attention to the conditions that shall prevail.

#### (1) The Political—The Governmental Conditions.

In the last days we are plainly told that the fifth great and terrible world-empire will be consummated. It will be headed up in the Anti-Christ and will become one of the greatest military despoticisms this world has ever known.

DAN. 11, 38: "In his estate he shall honor the God of Forces," etc

DAN. 7, 23. "Thus he said, the fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon the earth which shall be diverse from all kingdoms and shall devour the whole earth and shall tread it down and break it in pieces."

The governmental or political aspect shall not be of the best. That dreaded militarism which we have been fighting with all our might will reproduce itself in a terrific way at the last.

#### (2) The Economic—The Labor and Capital Question.

The struggle between labor and capital is one of long standing and one naturally asks how long shall it continue? Scripture declares the only solution is the Lord's Return. It will be intensified just previous to His Coming.

JAMES 5, 1-5: "Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered, and the rust of them shall be a witness against you and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the Last Days. Behold the hire of the laborers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth, and the cries of them are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth."

Hear me, brethren, Capital may be able through its mighty power to crush the Laborer. But I would rather be the Laborer than the Capitalist when they stand before God. We are warned in Rev. 13:17 that the greatest Capitalist scheme ever perpetrated will be consummated in the last days.

"And no man might buy or sell, save he, that had the mark, or the name of the beast or the number of his name."

And how the prices will soar in the last days.

REV. 6, 6: "A measure (1 quart) of wheat for a penny (15c) and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine"

When wheat soars to \$4.80 a bushel and barley \$1.60, ye may imagine the famine prices of flour and meal.

I pity the poor man in these days. How precious that prayer will become—"Give us this day our daily bread."

### (3) The Ecclesiastical or Church Conditions.

So many people are being deluded by the slogan of some, "The world is getting better," that this section is quite important. It surprises one how men can declare thus in the face of the present day facts. Have they really looked into the statistics of crime and wickedness of the world? Look the world squarely in the face and there is only one verdict and that is that wickedness of the most disgracing and debasing character is rampant in our cities and larger centres of population. Is this extraordinary? Christ declared it would be the case long ago.

LUKE 17, 26-28-30: "And as it was in the days of Noah so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man,"

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot, etc. . . . Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed."

Surely everyone is quite aware of the wickedness of the days of Noah and of the fornication of Sodom in the days of Lot.

I sometimes wonder if our people are aware of the grotesque and mischievous things that are being preached in the name of Christ—Spiritualism, Christian Science, Millennial Dawnism, etc. I fear many do not know the menace and falsity of these things; when preachers of today can remain in their pulpits and still deny the Atonement, the Virgin Birth of Christ, the literal body resurrection of our Lord, and His actual ascension and visible return, I think it is time we were arousing ourselves.

And yet God's Word warns us this shall be.

II PET. 2, 1: "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you who privily shall bring in damnable heresies even denying the LORD that bought them"

I TIM. 4, 1: "Now the spirit speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils." (c.f. II. Tim. 3, 1-13.)

These do not give much room for the world-getting-better theory. No the Lord knew that when the Son of Man came, faith would be a scarce article—"They might have a form of Godliness but deny the power thereof."

### (4) The Commercial.

In Daniel 12:4 we are told that in the time of the end "many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall be increased." Some have said that the 19th century advanced human progress more than all the centuries before, and that the first decade of the 20th century surpassed the whole of the 19th. If this is true of the first 10 years of this century, what shall we say of these last four years? No doubt in the next few years the aeroplane will be developed to perfection almost.

I turn to the 18th Chap. of Revelation, and I read of that great city of commerce, Babylon, and of the tremendous traffic that will be carried on in her.

REV. 18, 3: "And the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies."

Riches will be the idol of the Apostate religions of the latter days. The One Aim of the Churches will be to raise money.

(5) The Social Conditions.

Christ has given us a very clear outline of these when He declared—

MATT. 24, 39: "As it was in the days of Noah so shall it be in the day when the Son of Man cometh."

The first thing we note about Noah's days was the prominence of women. This is to be duplicated.

ISA. 4, 1: "And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, we will eat our own bread and wear our own apparel; only let us be called by thy name to take away our reproach."

This means polygamy will be allowed as in Noah's days. Then, too, fallen angels of the demoniac order will again seek to have intercourse with humanity.

REV. 18, 2: "Babylon is become the habitation of devils and the held of every foul spirit and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird."

Oh, men and women, this world has nothing to offer you in the future. There is only one refuge for your soul—that is at the foot of the Cross, where Jesus died to save you.

Why do you wait, dear brother?

Oh, why do you tarry so long?

The Saviour is willing to give you

A place in His sanctified throng.



## LECTURE No. 5

# The Zionist Movement, or the Restoration of the Hebrews.

In our last lecture I called your attention to two basic facts that will bear repetition here.

(1) All the events of the prophetic utterances that have yet to be fulfilled cluster around the Second Coming of the Lord and the Millennium. Hence the Lord's Return must have a very important place in the study of Prophecy.

(2) The exact interpretation of any prophecy is known from Scripture and not by speculation. The basis of the argument is this: If the events in connection with the first Advent of Christ were literally fulfilled it is quite logical to suppose that the events prophesied in connection with the second Advent will be also literally fulfilled. Hear me, please.

When you read that He was to be born of a Virgin (Isa. 7:14) in Bethlehem (Micah. 5:2) and later to escape the slaughter of the infants (Jer. 31:15) He was to be taken into Egypt (Hosea 11:1) and then you turn to the Divine record of what actually took place and find these prophecies literally fulfilled you are encouraged to believe as you read that Jesus is coming again (John 14:3) and his foot will touch the Mt. of Olives (Zech. 14:4), that these things are also actually true.

Or again, when you read that He was to be betrayed (Ps. 55:12) and sold for 30 pieces of silver (Zech. 11:12) and forsaken by His followers (Zech. 13:7), scourged (Isa. 50:6), crucified (Ps. 22:), given gall to drink (Ps. 69:12), and yet not a bone of His body broken (Ps. 34:20), you must stand in amazement to find that all this was actually and literally fulfilled. The more you read it all and compare with the actual fulfillment the more you will become convinced that the Prophets are perfectly reliable and always say what they mean and mean what they say.

Some years ago a prominent professor in one of Canada's Eastern Theological Colleges while writing in a Sunday School publication declared in explaining Isa. 53:4-9 that we were unable to say to whom the prophet referred, whether to himself or to Israel.

Here was a marvellous thing! He could not say to whom it referred, when it declared—

"He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed." "He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth. He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He openeth not His mouth."

But why could he not say, when the Scriptures have told us? Only infidelity and unbelief could declare thus. In Acts 8, we have the conversation of Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch.

ACTS 8, 32: "The place of Scripture which he read was this: 'He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb, dumb, before His shearers, so He opened not His mouth' (vs. 34). 'And the Eunuch answered Philip and said, of whom speaketh the prophet thus? of Himself or of some other man?'"

This dark-skinned heathen knew as much about prophecy as this Canadian Professor of Theology. A fine commendation that is surely. Vs. 35: "Then Philip opened his mouth and began at the same Scripture and preached unto him Jesus."

If God's word states the interpretation of any passage either directly or indirectly, surely we need be no longer in doubt.

Now our present purpose is to deal with another very important theme which has a very striking future significance.

### THE PLACE OF THE HEBREWS IN GOD'S ECONOMY.

When God began to fulfil His purpose to establish His Kingdom on earth, one of His first steps was to prepare for Himself a great nation for that Kingdom. This was the Hebrew nation or what we call the Israelites or Jews.

#### (1) The Hebrews had a remarkable beginning and History.

God had made a covenant with Noah to rule the earth in equity and justice but man rebelled and built the tower of Babel to reach the sky. The dispensation of human government ended in anarchy, so God sent down confusion upon them and they were scattered to the four corners of the earth.

Then God called Abram, Son of Terah, a worshipper of other Gods (Josh. 24:2) and told him that if he would come away from his home and kindred He would make of him a great nation and give him the land of Palestine.

GEN. 17, 8: "And I will give unto thee and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God."

This covenant God renewed with Isaac and Jacob. Israel was to be a mighty nation and have Palestine as their possession. Then God brought them out of Egypt where they had wandered and gave them the Law, and warned them of blessings and curses which would attend their path according as they were obedient or disobedient.

DEUT. 30, 1-3: "And it shall come to pass when all these things are come upon thee the blessing and the curse which I have set before thee and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the Lord, thy God, hath driven thee, and shall return unto the Lord thy God . . . that then the Lord thy God will turn thy captivity and have compassion upon thee and will return and gather thee from all the nations whither thy God hath scattered thee."

This is one of the best summaries of Israel's history that we have. Israel was blessed but Israel became disobedient and idolatrous and then the tribes were scattered under Nebuchadnezzar. It is true some returned but finally Judah was scattered also and the land fell wholly into the hands of the Gentile world-powers.

Then a great event happened—Jesus came into the world, the Messiah of God,—and presented Himself as their Redeemer and King, but they rejected Him and crucified Him. They would not have Him to rule over them, so He departed with His Kingdom, declaring:

MATT. 23, 38. "Behold your house is left unto you desolate, for I say unto you ye shall not see Me henceforth until ye shall say: 'Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.'"

When Jesus departed they asked Him if He would on the day of Pentecost restore the Kingdom to Israel, but He replied. They would not experience the tribulation times and seasons preceding the Kingdom but they were to get busy proclaiming the Gospel after they had received power.

Some talk as if this Kingdom was a Spiritual Kingdom now forming on earth.

In His trial Jesus declared that His Kingdom was not NOW of this earth (John 18:36), and when He taught the Parable of the Pounds He showed that He would go to receive His Kingdom and return with it. He declared the establishment of the Kingdom as future when He inaugurated the Lord's Supper, and when we repeat the Lord's Prayer: "Let Thy Kingdom come," we indicate that it is not now here.

We are now in the interval. God is now taking out of the world His church, calling them individually one by one (Acts 15:14-18). One of these days the Rapture will take place (1 Thess 4:17-18) and then Daniel's 70th week will begin and when that seven years is completed, the Kingdom will be established. Meantime, Israel is without a King.

HOSEA 3, 4-5. "For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a King and without a Prince and without a sacrifice and without an image and without an ephod and without teraphim. Afterward shall the children of Israel return and seek the Lord, their God, and David their King; and shall fear the Lord and His goodness in the latter days."

As long as the nation remains scattered in part all over the earth, and there is no temple, Israel must remain without a King and without a sacrifice. I am not now dealing with the British-Israel theory; that is based on another ground altogether. This will be dealt with later on.

Prophecy tells us in many places that there is a glorious future ahead for the Hebrews. They will yet be gathered into their own land, Palestine, and David shall be their King.

EZEK. 37, 21-24: "Behold I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen whither they be gone and will gather them on every side and bring them into their own land. And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel, and one King shall be King to them all, etc., etc."

Their future blessings depend upon their acceptance of the Christ as their Messiah. They must say: "Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord." People and nations do not love the Jew now, but there is a day coming when they will.

ZECH. 8, 23. Thus saith the Lord of Hosts; in these days it shall come to pass that ten men shall take hold, out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you, for we have heard that God is with you."

## **RESTORATION OF HEBREWS PLAINLY TAUGHT IN SCRIPTURE.**

Passage after passage declares this.

EZEK. 36, 24: "For I will take you from among the heathen and gather you out of all countries and will bring you into your own land."

What plainer could it be? The Hebrews are to be re-gathered into Palestine from all over the earth. It is evident that they are not there yet so this re-gathering is still in the future.

## **TWO STAGES IN THE RETURN OF THE HEBREWS.**

Scripture reveals that the re-gathering of the Hebrews will take place in two stages.

### **(1) Before Christ Comes.**

Many are to return to Palestine, of all the 12 tribes, and shall build again the temple and the city and shall be shut in when the great siege of Jerusalem takes place at the time of the Battle of Armageddon.

ZECH. 12, 2. "Behold I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem"

As one continues to read this chapter in Zechariah, we discover that the Hebrews will return in UNBELIEF at the first re-gathering. They will not accept Christ as the Messiah, but when this terrific siege takes place they will be overwhelmed with conviction.

ZECH. 12, 10: "And I will pour upon the House of David and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications; and they shall look upon Me whom they have pierced and they shall mourn for Him as one mourneth for his only son and shall be in bitterness for Him, as one that is in bitterness for his first-born."

Yes, Israel will first go back, in unbelief. They are doing so now. That is why God declares he will send Elijah to preach to them.

MAL. 4, 5-6: "Behold I will send you Elijah the Prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord; and he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children and the heart of the children to the Fathers lest I come and smite the earth with a curse."

But Elijah shall be killed (Rev. 11:7) and his dead body will be left in a street of Jerusalem for three days and a half and they shall rejoice that his terrible warnings will not bother them again.

Israel is in unbelief. They will hold to the temple worship but they will reject Christ as the Messiah.

When the Antichrist breaks his covenant with them in the midst of the week 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel (144,000 in all) shall suffer martyrdom at his hands.

REV. 7, 4: "And I heard the number of them which were sealed; and there were sealed one hundred and forty and four thousand of ALL the TRIBES of the Children of Israel."

This again shows that all the tribes (although not all the people) shall have returned to Jerusalem in unbelief before Christ comes.

## (2) After Christ Comes.

The second stage in the re-gathering of Israel follows immediately after the battle of Armageddon and the return of Christ. The first gathering was man's doings. The second gathering will be the Lord's.

ISA. 66, 18-20: "For I know their works and their thoughts; it shall come to pass that I will gather all nations and tongues, and they shall come and see My glory. And I will set a sign among them and I will SEND those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud that draw the bow, to Tubal and to Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard My fame, neither have seen My glory, and they shall declare My glory among the Gentiles. And they shall BRING all your brethren for an offering unto the Lord out of all nations upon horses or in chariots and in litters and upon mules and upon swift beasts to My Holy Mountain, Jerusalem."

When the Antichrist and the False Prophet have been bound (Rev. 19:20) and the armies surrender, the one-sixth that are left (Ezek. 39:2) will be sent by the Lord to bring the Hebrews back to the Promised Land.

ISA. 11, 11-15 "And it shall come to pass in that day that the Lord shall set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people which shall be left from Assyria and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath and from the islands of the Sea. And He shall set up an ensign for the nations and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. . . . But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the West, they shall spoil them of the East together, they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; the children of Ammon shall obey them. And the Lord shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian Sea; and with His mighty wind shall he shake His hand over the river Euphrates and shall smite it in the seven streams and make men go over dryshod. And there shall be an highway for the remnant of His people which shall be left."

The first re-gathering is in unbelief. The second will be a return to the Lord.

## THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT SCRIPTURAL IN ITS BASIC AIMS.

The Zionist movement which was founded some 20 years ago at Basel, Switzerland, aims to procure for the Jewish people a legally-secured and publicly-recognized home in Palestine. Since the inception of the movement the work has been divided into two great sections—organization work throughout the world and colonization work in Palestine. In August, 1914, when it became evident that the Jews of Europe would, for a long time, be unable to manage affairs of great importance on account of the war, the Jews of the United States organized to take over not only the Zionist movement but Jewish affairs in general.

The movement has attracted the attention of great statesmen in many democratic countries such as England and France.

The sympathy of the British Government with the Zionist movement has been expressed more than once and in more than one way.

The Zionist movement bases its aims on God's promises to Abraham. God promised Abram the land extending from the "River of Egypt" unto the "Great River," the River Euphrates, (Gen. 15:18), and from Hamath, about 100 miles north of Damascus (Ezek. 48:1) to Kadish about 100 miles south of Jerusalem (Ezek. 48:28).

GEN. 13, 14-15: "And the Lord said unto Abram after that Lot was separated from him, 'Lift up now thine eyes and look from the place where thou art Northward and Southward and Eastward and Westward, for all the land which thou seest to thee will I give it and to thy seed forever.'"

This "Royal Grant" was unconditional and is eight times as large as that formerly occupied by the twelve tribes.

Therefore I say the Zionist movement is based on a definite promise of God and is accordingly on a solid foundation.

"But," says one, "Have the Jewish people not had this land under King David or Solomon? If so the promise has been already fulfilled." Let God instruct us on this matter.

ACTS 7, 5 "And He (God) gave him (Abram) none inheritance in it (the Promised Land), no, not so much as to set his foot on, yet He promised that He would give it to him for a possession and to his seed after him when as yet he had no child."

One of two conclusions is open to us: (1) The infidel or sceptic position. We may conclude that God's Word is not reliable. His promises not valid. He broke faith with Abram and failed to fulfil his covenant, or (2) We must believe that Abram will yet be raised from the dead and receive the land promised to him.

This latter was the declaration made by Christ—

MATT. 8, 11: "And I say unto you, that many shall come from the East and West and shall sit down with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven."

Yes, the Zionist movement is on a solid foundation, but they have broken away from the Faith of Abraham.

### **ZIONIST MOVEMENT—NOT DEPENDENT UPON GOD'S WORK**

Abraham believed God when He told him He would give him the land and build him a city. He sojourned in tents waiting upon God.

HEB. 11, 9-10 "By faith he (Abram) sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is GOD."

The Zionist movement ignore this attitude, but plan to build the temple and city themselves and to buy the land. How slow they are to learn that the only abiding city and the only permanent possession will be the one built and the possession given by God. Titus swept the beautiful city to the ground in A.D. 70 and the Jerusalem that they plan to build, prophecy tells us, will also be destroyed.

ZECH. 14, 2: "For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken and the houses rifled and the women ravished."

ACTS 15, 16: "After this I will return and build again the RUINS thereof."

God's Word teaches us that Jerusalem will never abide permanently until Christ returns and builds it.

For years the Hebrews have planned to buy Palestine from the Turks. But God did not tell Abram to come out from his country and kindred unto a land that you will "buy" for yourself and seed. No. He said "unto a land that I will GIVE you."

Now the Jews are looking to Great Britain to give them the land, but

this will never be for three reasons: (1) The Jews are not yet willing to accept Christ as the Messiah.

MATT. 23, 39: "Ye shall not see Me henceforth till ye say 'Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.'"

Christ's return is absolutely necessary to the restoration of the Kingdom to Israel. They will not acknowledge Christ as the Messiah and King today, even though He came in the name of the Father. Therefore, they will not receive the land from Great Britain or the Allies.

(2) Prophecy declares that the Antichrist will covenant with the Jews regarding their land. It was to this that Christ referred when he said—

JOHN 5, 43: "I am come in My Father's name and ye receive Me not; if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive."

(3) Great Britain and the Allies can not give Palestine permanently to the Jews for the simple reason that they will later loose it to the King of the North (evidently Russia and Germany).

DAN. 11, 43: "But he (King of the North) that cometh against him (King of the South) shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him, and he shall stand in the glorious land (Palestine) which by his hand shall be consumed."

Thus it is that the Antichrist who is a claimant of the Throne of Russia will be able to offer the JEWS the right to temple worship in Palestine if they will assist him to the throne. Palestine will be under the control of the Crown of Russia.

Thus I say, that although the ZIONIST MOVEMENT is on the solid foundation of GOD'S Promises, they have broken away from the faith of Abraham when they attempt to secure the land by purchase or by diplomatic means. For this reason they shall ultimately fail.

The JEWISH Race must yet acknowledge that the CHRIST who was crucified to the CROSS of Calvary was the SON of GOD, their MESSIAH.

Until they will acknowledge that, they must expect the curses of the world and can not expect the Blessings of GOD.

#### ANOTHER WAY TO OBTAIN THE INHERITANCE.

But there is another way to come into this glorious inheritance promised by GOD. That is by the OVERHEAD ROUTE. Swear your allegiance to the CHRIST of Calvary—accept Him as your Saviour—depend upon the efficacy of HIS BLOOD to wash away your sins and He will adopt you into the FAMILY of GOD and you will then be heir of God and joint-heir with JESUS CHRIST. Then when He comes He will take you up to meet Him in the air and when He returns with His Kingdom you shall also return with Him.

MATT. 19, 28 "And JESUS said unto them, 'Verily I say unto you that ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the SON OF MAN shall sit on the throne of His GLORY, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.'"

This is the way into the ROYALTY of the KINGDOM. You will not enter, by this method, as SUBJECTS, but as KINGS and PRIESTS.

Surely this is better than any ZIONISTIC PROPOSITION that has ever been offered. FOLLOW CHRIST.

O come, O come, Immanuel,  
And gather captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.



## LECTURE No. 6

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# The Sign-Posts on the Way to the Millennium, or the Period-Divisions of Daniel's Seventieth Week.

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In beginning our study in more detail of the 70th week of Daniel may I direct your attention once more to the fact that this week of seven years is preceded by the Rapture of the Saints at Christ's appearing FOR them and is followed by Christ's Return WITH them. This is surely quite evident for Christ cannot come WITH His Saints until He first comes FOR them. See here is a book. You couldn't bring it back here until you had taken it away, could you? That is self-evident. Jesus must come FOR His Saints before He can come WITH them. 1 Thess. 4:16-17—must precede. Zech. 14:4-5—1 Cor. 15:51-52, must occur before Acts 1:11.

The failure to note this fact has led many to expect the Second Coming of the Lord in 1914 or 1919 or 1923. Understand me clearly, please! The Rapture of the Church may happen to-night. You may never see another sunrise, but the Second Coming of the Lord to establish His Kingdom on earth cannot take place for at least seven years yet. Hence the Day of the Lord cannot begin before 1926 at least. I am not looking for the Millennial Coming of the Lord. Christians will not be on the earth when that happens. They will have departed seven years before that, and will actually return again with Him.

I sometimes imagine I have heard the shout or the voice of the Archangel or the trumpet of God "when all that are hiding in Christ—trusting in the BLOOD shed on the Cross of Calvary—shall be caught up—away from this world—to be forever with the Lord."

"And I shall see Him face to face, and tell the story saved by grace."

Would you like to meet Him tonight face to face? Could you tell the story of salvation by free Grace apart from your works?

"But," says one, "how do you know that seven years must intervene?" I have already covered that point when we dealt with the 70 weeks of Daniel, Chap. 9.

You remember we discovered from Lev. 25:8 that these weeks were Sabbatical weeks of years. Sixty-nine of them were filled up to the time of the Cross. Then God set aside the time of the GENTILES to reveal His Grace.

The Gentile clock has, therefore, been stopped and shall remain so until the Rapture has taken place, when the last or 70th week, shall be fulfilled. There are many events prophesied in GOD'S WORD to happen in rapid succession during these seven years before the Lord's Return.

### EVERY REASON TO EXPECT LITERAL FULFILMENT OF THESE.

We have already noted that when Christ came the first time the detailed events in connection with His coming were all carefully foretold and also literally fulfilled.

ACTS 31, 29: "And when they had fulfilled all that was written of Him they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a sepulchre"

Every prophecy bearing on the sufferings of Christ was actually fulfilled right up to the CROSS. The piercing of His hands, the scoffing, the vinegar, the marred visage, the disjointed body, the thirsty tongue and parched lips—everything was literally fulfilled even to the shin-bones remaining entire. But prophecy does not stop there. It plainly declares a resurrection of Christ.

PSALM 16, 10: "For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption."

Compare this with Acts 2:31—

"He seeing this before, spake of the resurrection of Christ that His soul was not left in hell, neither His flesh did see corruption."

Every prophecy yet fulfilled has been fulfilled to the very letter. Therefore, we have every reason to expect that God will in like manner fulfil the prophecies with reference to the events preceding and clustering around His coming again in glory. Jesus Himself gives us to understand this—

MATT 24, 32-35: "Now learn the parable of the fig trees, when his branch is yet tender and putteth forth leaves, ye know that Summer is nigh, so likewise ye when ye see ALL THESE THINGS know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you. This generation (of which I have been speaking) shall not pass away until ALL THESE THINGS be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away but MY WORDS shall not pass away."

He surely could not make this stronger. All the events prophesied to occur before the Millennium must actually come to pass in a generation.

#### **DANGER OF CONFUSION MUST BE CAREFULLY AVOIDED.**

Now there are a great many details laid down in God's Word to take place during these times. You know how many were told with regard to Christ's first Advent. They tell us there are eight times as many with regard to His Second Coming. No wonder there has been some little confusion and disagreement among some students of prophecy. May I suggest, therefore, that the best way to undertake the study of this matter is the Analytic rather than the Synthetic method. According to the Synthetic method they take it piece-meal. They read of a certain event and then of another, etc. And the first thing they know they are confused. On the other hand, the Analytic method first of all attempts the comprehension in general outline of the whole. After this its various divisions and subdivisions are dealt with and finally the details. By this means the various events are dove-tailed together in a marvelous manner. This is the proper method of giving directions in a journey, and this is the proper way to handle prophecy, from the whole to the detail. People have failed to use this method and they have become confused. Let me illustrate. Some have come to Rev. 6:4, and they read—

"And there went out another horse that was red, and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth and that they should kill one another."

Then following the Synthetic method they declare: "Surely we are living in the fulfilment of this now. This terrible European War is in accord with this verse. The red horse indicates the amount of bloodshed. We are certainly living in the time of the Second Seal."

And then they read on, verses 5 and 6:

"And when he had opened the 3rd seal I heard the third beast say come and see. And I beheld and lo! a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine."

Now that means about \$4.80 a bushel for wheat and \$1.60 a bushel for barley. "Yes," says our prophet, "we may expect to see these prices

next summer (1915)." I'm telling you what was actually said in Calgary in August, 1914. But he was wrong and prospects of peace now face us without its fulfilment. This piece-meal method always fails. Apparently this man had not taken the time to grasp prophecy in the grandeur of its full aspect. Had he read carefully he would not have talked thus. Follow me, please. According to verse 1 of this 6th Chapter, Christ is opening a sealed book. Turning back to Chapter 5:1-3, we read this:

"And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the back side, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, 'Who is worthy to open the book and to loose the seals thereof?' And no man in Heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth was able to open the book neither to look therein."

I feel constrained to pause here to call your attention to the fact that not a single person in Heaven will ever even raise his eyes when the question of worthiness is mentioned. If there is any man or woman here to-night who thinks he or she is going to get to Heaven because they are righteous in themselves and therefore worthy, let them be at once undeceived. You will have to lose all that self-righteousness before you get there. It is only poor, vile sinners,—ungodly people saved by grace, that go to Heaven. But let us read—

"And when He (Christ) had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb having everyone of them harps and golden vials, full of odors, which are the prayers of Saints. And they sung a new song, saying, 'Thou art worthy to take the book and to open the seals thereof, for Thou wast slain and hast redeemed us to God by Thy blood out of every kindred and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made us unto our God, kings and priests, and we shall reign on the earth'."

It is quite evident from this that this is the Church of Christ which is in Heaven when the sealed book is opened. Thus the rapture of the Church must have taken place before any of the Seals are broken and therefore we are not NOW in the time of the Second Seal.

### ARE WE IN THE SIXTH VIAL TODAY?

Some declare we are witnessing today the pouring out of the Sixth Vial. Read for yourself the account—

REV. 16, 12: "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great River, Euphrates, and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the Kings of the East might be prepared"

These people say that the Euphrates River is not to be taken literally. In this case the Euphrates River does not mean Euphrates River. It refers to the Turkish Empire. Such a statement as this surely requires some proof. What have they to say?

The Euphrates River refers to the Turkish Empire because the Turks have been driven out of Jerusalem today and the whole Empire is gradually being disintegrated (dried up). Hence this passage refers to our day and we are in the time of the Sixth Vial.

I beg to suggest to you that this is not logic but mere sophistry. One can prove anything by such reasoning as that. For example, See this wooden pointer. I declare it is made of cloth. Prove it, you say. Well this chart is made of cloth and they are both on this platform. Therefore, this pointer is made of cloth. What folly! Hear me carefully. During this Sixth Vial the call to the battle of Armageddon takes place (verses 13-14). This will not happen until the Antichrist has secured his universal sway. But the Antichrist will not be revealed until after the Rapture (2 Thess 2:7-8). Therefore we cannot be in the time of the Sixth Vial.

I take it, that the Euphrates River means exactly what it says.

ISA 11, 15-16: "The Lord shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian Sea; and with His mighty wind shall He shake His hand over the River and shall smite it in the seven streams and make men go over dry-shod. And there shall be an highway for the remnant of His people which shall be left from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that He came up out of the land of Egypt."

Was the journey from Egypt through the Red Sea a literal one? Then according to God's comparison the drying-up of the Egyptian Sea and Euphrates River shall also be a literal one.

### THE GREAT NEED OF SIGN-POSTS FOR GUIDANCE.

I propose now to discuss with you the great Sign Posts on the way to the Millennium. Were you and I to go on a journey over roads that may be confusing to us, we would be very glad to find, at important places, along the way, Sign Posts to direct us and to inform us as to our progress and the proper direction to take. Thus, God has seen to it that he has placarded or labelled certain events as indicative of the place where we are.

### THREE SIGNIFICANT EXPRESSIONS.

At this time I desire to call your attention to three significant expressions which particularly mark off the divisions in Daniel's 70th week between the Rapture and the Second Coming of Christ

These expressions are: (1) 42 mos., (2) 1260 days, and (3) time, times, and the dividing of (half) a time

### TO WHAT DO THESE REFER?

There are some who say that these are three expressions referring to the same period of time, namely, the last three and one-half years of tribulation week referred to above. Counting 30 days to the month, 42 months equal 1260 days, and taking 360 days to the year, 1260 days equal three and one-half years.

If time equals 1 year, also time, times and half a time equal three and one-half years. Thus they declare these all refer to one period only

Others say that they refer to two periods of three and one-half years each and that only two of these expressions are synonymous, viz.—1260 days, and time, times and half a time.

For years I accepted this latter position. So many of the outstanding Bible Students favor it. I was prejudiced in it, but I came face to face with a clear statement of God's Word one night (well, about two o'clock in the morning), and I found it out. I pass it on to you to-night. It gave me a new light on the truth of the latter times,—a new understanding of the Book of Revelation.

These three expressions refer to three distinct divisions of this 70th week. Follow me closely.

REV. 11, 13 "And there was given me a reed like unto a rod, and the angel stood saying, 'Rise and measure the temple of God, and the altar and them that worship therein. But the Court which is without the temple leave out and measure it not, for it is given unto the Gentiles, and the Holy City shall they tread under foot. Forty and two months. And I will give power unto my two witnesses and they shall prophesy a thousand, two hundred and three score days clothed in sack-cloth.'"

The measurement of a temple is done when the building is in the course of construction. The Jews are to re-build their temple in Jerusalem. Much of it is already in the course of preparation in the different countries where influential Jews are assembled. The period of 42 months represents the first division of the week when the temple worship is in progress. In the midst of the week the Antichrist shall cause the Daily Sacrifice to cease. (Dan. 9:27). This 42 months, then, is to be followed by 1260 days of witnessing by the two notable servants of God. You will notice that the tense of verse 3 is future, while that of verse 2 is present. This is a further declaration that the 42 months precedes the 1260 days.

Thus it seems evident that we have two periods at least in the week. Now the question arises: Does "time, times and half a time" correspond with one of these two or is it another period?

### THE MEANING OF TIME, TIMES AND HALF A TIME.

If this expression corresponds with either the 42 months or the 1260 day period, it is evident that the 1260 days will then end the 70th week and Christ's return will immediately follow. What saith the Scripture?

DAN. 12. 11-12: "And from the time that the Daily Sacrifice shall be taken away and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand, two hundred and ninety days.

"Blessed is he that waiteth and cometh to the thousand, three hundred and five and thirty days."

You notice at once that the time from which the count is made is the cessation of the daily sacrifice which occurs in the midst of the week. (Dan 9:27). Twelve hundred and ninety days from that, the Abomination Image of the Antichrist is to be set up. That is, the Abomination Image is to be set up 30 days after the two witnesses (who testify for 1260 days) are killed. Hence this 1260 days of testimony is not the end of the week. According to the 12th verse quoted above there are 75 days to follow the 1260 days

That is, 30 plus 30 plus 15 days, or time, times and half a time. It is, therefore, evident that there is a third period known as time, times and half a time, which follows the 1260 day period. The first period, then, is known as the period of temple-worship, 42 months. The second division is the Testimony period, 1260 days, when the two witnesses, Elijah and Enoch, proclaim the good news of the coming Kingdom. But, you say, will Elijah and Enoch return to the earth in body?

Prophetic Scriptures declare that they will.

MAL. 4, 5 "Behold I will send Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord."

This passage specifically names him in its plain declaration. Elijah is to come before the Coming of Christ.

Here again we find those who long to spiritualize and flee from the literal statement. I tell you again, we must keep clear of the deluding art which by a process of permutative idealization makes of the Word of God whatever suits individual fancy. It is an insidious procedure to make the literal and real disappear from God's Word and replace it with something else just as good. This method of interpretation goes back to the days of platonizing Origen and Augustine, who confounded the church with the Kingdom, substituted the church for Israel and spiritualized the Coming of the Lord.

Some say this prophecy (above) refers to John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ. But this is in direct opposition to John's own declaration.

JOHN 1, 19-21 "And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and levites from Jerusalem to ask him 'Who art thou?' And He confessed and denied not but confessed 'I am not the Christ' And they asked Him 'What then? ART THOU ELIAS?' And He saith 'I AM NOT.'"

John openly answered their questions and honestly declared that he was not Elijah. The Angel from Heaven also supports John in his statement. Speaking of John the Baptist, he says:

LUKE 1, 17 "And He shall go before Him in the spirit and power of Elias to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, etc."

This shows again that John was not really Elijah although he prefigured him in spirit and spiritual power. John the Baptist preceded the first advent of Christ as Elijah will precede the second. Christ also dealt with this question.

MATT 17, 10-12 "And His Disciples asked Him saying, Why then say the Scribes that Elias must first come? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly SHALL FIRST COME, and restore all things. But I say unto you, that Elias is come already (i.e., in spirit and power) and they knew him not but have done unto him whatever they listed."

The vision on the Transfiguration Mount recalled the prophecy and Scribes teaching to the Disciples' minds.

Elijah, you remember, did not die. He was translated and there he appeared alive and actually talked with Jesus. The Lord assures the Disciples that Elijah shall surely come, but the Jews will not recognize him any more than they did John the Baptist who came with his spirit and power.

Now, Revelation, Chap. 11, tells us that he and another, presumably Enoch, who was also translated, will come again and witness for 1260 days and then they will be slain and lie  $3\frac{1}{2}$  days on the streets of Jerusalem, after which they shall be immediately taken to Heaven.

Then the Great Tribulation, spoken of by Christ in the 24th Chapter of Matthew, shall begin and continue for 75 days. At the end of the first 30 days the Antichrist's image will be set up as described in Rev. 13: and the Apostate Church will be overcome. Then the great battle of Armageddon will take place and the end of the times of the Gentiles will come. Christ Himself shall descend from Heaven with His Church and establish His Kingdom on this earth.

All these revelations show us how certainly the coming of the Lord is established in Scripture.

They tell us something in outline, at least, of the terribleness of the times preceding His return and make us rejoice in the thought that the Church is taken out before this week of years begins.

Men and women, I appeal to you, have you opened your heart to Christ and trusted in the "cleansing power of the blood?"

Remember—"Now is the day of Salvation. Now is the accepted time. Whosoever shall call on the Name of the Lord shall be saved."

Oh, joy! Oh, delight! Should we go without dying,  
No sickness, no sadness, no dread, and no crying,  
Caught up through the clouds with our Lord into glory,  
When Jesus receives His own.





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